Podu Cultivation in Orissa

2041. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States from where growing incidents of primitive cultivation are reported;

(b) whether the primitive cultivation which is known as Podu cultivation is on the rise in some hilly and tribal districts in Orissa;

(c) if so, the steps taken to stop the Podu (primitive) cultivation in Orissa and other States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The incidence of primitive cultivation (shifting cultivation) is reported in the following States:

1. Andhra Pradesh 2. Arunachal Pradesh 3. Assam 4. Manipur 5. Meghalaya 6. Mizoram 7. Orissa 8. Nagaland and 9. Tripura.

(b) No, Sir. It has decreased.

(c) and (d) For control of shifting cultivation, the following steps have been taken by the Central Government:

Plan period	Name of scheme	Area treated (ha)	Families benefited (Nos.)	Expenditure
V Ran	Pilot project for control of shifting cultivation (for 9 States including Andhra Pradesh and Orissa.	3400	1700	Rs. 1.29 crores
VII plan	Central Sector Scheme for control of shifting cultivation		26500	Rs. 60.72 crores
VIII Plan	Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas of North-Eastern States	70799	45297	Rs. 31.73 crores

Plan period	Name of scheme	Area treated (ha)	Families benefited (Nos.)	Expenditure
IX Plan (for first 3 years.)	-do-	92716	22349	Rs. 48.45 crores

Agricultural Marketing Facilities in NER

2042. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to take necessary steps for expanding agricultural marketing facilities in the NER during the Ninth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has recently approved two new schemes, namely, Scheme for Agricultural Marketing Information Network and Scheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/ Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticultural Produce for bringing about improvements in the present Agricultural Marketing facilities and marketing infrastructure in the country, including the North Eastern Region. Under the schemes for Agricultural Marketing Information Network, it is proposed to establish a nationwide information network for speedy collection and dissemination of market information/data for their efficient and timely utilisation. Under this scheme, all important Agricultural Produce Markets and State Agricultural Marketing Boards/Departments all over the country, including in the North Eastern Region, will be linked up through a computer network. While the subsidy under the scheme of Capital investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storages and Storages is 25% subject to a ceiling of Rs. 50 lakhs per project, subsidy for projects in the North-Eastern Region